

ATTACHMENT A

Work Draft Materials for A1 Subcommittee August 10, 2011

Statute: §10608.64

The department, in consultation with the Agricultural Water Management Council, academic experts, and other stakeholders, shall develop a methodology for quantifying the efficiency of agricultural water use. Alternatives to be assessed shall include, but not be limited to, determination of efficiency levels based on crop type or irrigation system distribution uniformity. On or before December 31, 2011, the department shall report to the Legislature on a proposed methodology and a plan for implementation. The plan shall include the estimated implementation costs and the types of data needed to support the methodology. Nothing in this section authorizes the department to implement a methodology established pursuant to this section

Specific paragraphs in SBx7-7 directing the methodology:

10608(e) The success of state and local water conservation programs to increase efficiency of water use is best determined on the basis of measurable outcomes related to water use or efficiency.

10608.4. It is the intent of the Legislature, by the enactment of this part, to do all of the following: (a) Require all water suppliers to increase the efficiency of use of this essential resource.

10608.8(c) This part does not require a reduction in the total water used in the agricultural or urban sectors, because other factors, including, but not limited to, changes in agricultural economics or population growth may have greater effects on water use. This part does not limit the economic productivity of California's agricultural, commercial, or industrial sectors.

10800(e) There is a great amount of reuse of delivered water, both inside and outside the water service areas.

10800(f) Significant noncrop beneficial uses are associated with agricultural water use, including streamflows and wildlife habitat.

Purpose Statement:

The methodology (to quantify the efficiency of agricultural water use) is a measured assessment of the existing water management at a defined spatial scale. The foundation for unique metrics based on the measurements is the "water balance" – a representation of the array of inputs and outputs that reflect the movement of water within and across a defined boundary.

DRAFT MATERIALS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY